

April 9, 2015  
Middlesex Municipal Building

The Regular meeting of the Middlesex Shade Tree Commission was held on the above date at the Middlesex Borough Hall and called to order by Vice Chairman Jason Bond:

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice which has been forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on December 8, 2014”,

Members:	Jason Bond
	Dan Gitler (absent)
	Jim Gorman
	Sean Johnson
	Frank Ryan (absent)

Liaison	Sean Kaplan (absent)
Secretary	Linda Chismar

Vice Chairman Bond opened the meeting to the public. Seeing that there was no public comments, Vice Chairman Bond closed the Public Portion of the meeting.

Mr. Bond made a motion to table the January 8, 2015, February 12, 2015 and March 12, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commission.

Mr. Bond made a motion to table the January, 2015, February, 2015 and March, 2015 Finance Report seconded by Mr. Gorman and carried by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commission.

#### Communications

1. 247 Fairfield Avenue – Mr. Bond will look at this tree that resident requested be trimmed.
2. 320 Anthony Avenue – Mr. Johnson will look at the tree that is picking up the sidewalk and street.
3. 121 Vogel Place – Mr. Bond will look at the tree in the front of this property to see if needs to be removed and is dead.
4. Lincoln Boulevard – Front of Jozana’s – Commission agreed to remove the stump left by Predator from the tree that was removed due to Hurricane Sandy.
5. Tree on Southeast Corner of Fisher Avenue and Giles Avenue – Mr. Johnson will look at this tree to see if it could be removed.
6. 7 Dunlap Place – Mr. Bond and Mr. Gorman went to look at the tree in front of 7 Dunlap reported by Mr. Craig and determined that it should be removed. Linda will request if Mr. Craig would like a replacement tree.

7. 3 Dunlap Place – Commission determined that three maples should be pruned at the corner of Dunlap.
8. 57 Greenbrook Road – Commission determined that the dead maple should be removed from the front of this property.
9. 511 Chestnut Street – Mr. Johnson reported that resident has requested that the Shade Tree Commission should look at the tree in front of his property to determine if it is dead. Mr. Bond will look at this tree and report back to commission.

#### Work Agenda

1. 316 Raphael Avenue – Commission determined that after the aerial inspection of this tree was done by Predator it should be removed. We received an estimate of \$2200.00 for this removal.

#### Unfinished Business

- (A) Increase of Fines when Removing Trees – This Ordinance amendment was tabled until the May, 2015 Shade Tree Meeting.
- (B) Update on Door Knob Hangers – Linda received a quote of \$67 for 100 black/white hangers from FST. This matter will be discussed further at the May, 2015 Shade Tree Meeting as Mr. Gitler was not present at this meeting.
- (C) Update on Aerial Inspection of 316 Raphael Avenue – Discussed above.
- (D) Predator's consult with PSE&G regarding 211 A Street and cabling – Commission discussed that the cabling was not recommended by PSE&G because of the location of the wires. Predator adjusted his quote for work on this tree to compensate for not cabling the tree.
- (E) Update on Distribution of Free Tree Seedlings – April 18, 2015 at 10AM, Mountainview Park – Commission discussed this and the DPW has picked up the seedlings and delivered to Mr. Bond's house. The dispensing of these seedlings has been advertised on the website and in "Our Town". Mr. Johnson will also request approval from the Little League to possibly distribute some seedlings at the Little League Field to borough residents.

#### New Business

- (A) Arbor Day Tree Location – Commission determined that they would speak with Ray Mulvey to see if they would want a replacement tree by the flagpole at the High School. If not, the possibility of planting at Watchung School is always an option. Mr. Bond will follow up and advise Linda about the planting and what is recommended by Mr. Mulvey.
- (B) Spring Planting – Commission decided that they would plant for Arbor Day, but delay the Spring Planting until the fall and possibly plant 40 – 50 trees at that time. The Commission might walk Greenbrook Road and determine where to plant there, as after numerous attempts PSE&G has never replanted as promised a few years ago.
- (C) Planting done at Watchung School – Mr. Johnson has indicated that the plantings at Watchung School do not seem to be living, and he will look in the next couple of weeks to see if they are alive.
- (D) Aerial Inspection done by Predator – Commission has requested that in the future, when an aerial inspection is done by Predator that he supply the

commission with pictures of decay if he determines that the tree should be removed. We did pay \$150.00 for this aerial inspection. Also, it was mentioned that in the future we may want to require that our contractor has the necessary certifications as a certified arborist to make assessments of our trees.

Mr. Bond moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

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Linda Chismar, Secretary

NEXT SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY,  
MAY 14, 2015 – 7:30 PM  
MIDDLESEX BOROUGH HALL

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call Linda at 732-356-7400, Ext. 238

